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09/827,593	04/06/2001	Jari Pekka Hamalainen	460-006859-US (C01)	3070
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PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			SON, LINH L D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2135	
DATE MAILED: 03/23/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/827,593

Applicant(s)

HAMALAINEN ET AL.

Examiner

Linh Son

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 6 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/763970.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 08/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This written action is written in responding to the preliminary amendment received on 04/06/2001.
2. Claims 1-18 are canceled. Claims 19-98 are newly added and pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. **Claims 19-25, 27-29, 32-34, 48, 60-65, 67-69, 71-73, 77-79, 81-84, 87, 90-91, and 93-98 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Houghton et al, US Patent No. 5140635, hereinafter "Houghton".**
5. As per claims 19, 48, 65, 71, and 82, Houghton discloses "Houghton discloses "A method for indicating a ciphering mode of data communication between a mobile communication network and a mobile station in the mobile communication network, the mobile communication network and the mobile station being capable of data communication in at least one enciphered mode of communication and in at least one enciphered mode of communication" in (Col 1 lines 34-40), "comprising the steps of: in a situation where an enciphered mode of

communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, sending from the mobile communication network to the mobile station a cipher mode control signal to indicate that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used" in (Col 3 line 60 to Col 4 line 30); "monitoring at the mobile station signals sent from the mobile communication network to the mobile station; and if monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal, indicating that an enciphered mode of data communication is to be used in communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station" in (Col 4 lines 10-32).

6. As per claims 20, 60, and 83, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 19, 59, and 82 further comprising the step of causing the mobile station to enter an enciphered mode of communication if said monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal" in (Col 4 lines 10-32).
7. As per claims 21 and 61, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 19 and 59, further comprising the step of indicating that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station if said monitored signals do not comprise a cipher mode control signal" in (Col 3 line 57 to Col 4 lines 30).

8. As per claims 22 and 62, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 19 and 59, wherein a ciphering mode to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station is specified by an operator of the mobile communication network" in (Col 4 lines 2-30).
9. As per claims 23, and 63-64, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 19, 59, and 63, wherein a ciphering mode to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station is determined during establishment of data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station" in (Col 4 lines 2-30).
10. As per claims 24-25, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 19 and 24, wherein determination of the ciphering mode to be used in data communication prior to establishment of data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station is performed by means of a location update procedure" in (Col 3 lines 30-35, and Col 4 lines 2-30).
11. As per claim 27, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of: maintaining a cipher mode indication data field in the mobile station; initially setting said cipher mode indication data field into a first state indicative that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data

communication between the communication network and the mobile station; and
in a situation in which said monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control
signal, updating the state of the cipher mode indication data field into a second
state indicative that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data
communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile
station” in (Col 3 line 15 to Col 4 line 30).

12. As per claims 28 and 68, Houghton discloses “A method according to claims 19
and 59, wherein in addition to indicating a ciphering mode, a change in ciphering
mode is indicated” Col 4 lines 20-30).
13. As per claim 29, Houghton discloses “A method according to claim 19, wherein
data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile
station takes place at least in part over a radio link” in (Col 3 lines 35-30).
14. As per claims 32 and 67, Houghton discloses “A method according to claim 19,
wherein the mobile station comprises a light source and the ciphering mode used
in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile
station is indicated with the light source” in (Col 4 lines 2-30).
15. As per claims 33 and 69, Houghton discloses “A method according to claims 28
and 68”, wherein the mobile station comprises a display unit and an acoustic

signal forming element, the ciphering mode used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station is indicated with the display unit, and a change in ciphering mode is indicated with the acoustic signal forming element" in (Col 4 line 1).

16. As per claim 34, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 32, wherein a change in ciphering mode is indicated with a flashing light" in (Col 4 lines 2-30).
17. As per claim 65, Houghton teaches "An apparatus according to claim 59, further comprising: means for maintaining a cipher mode indication data field; means for setting said cipher mode indication data field initially into a first state indicative that an un-ciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the communication network and the mobile station" in (Col 3 line 25-30, and lines 50-55); "and means responsive to said determining means for changing the state of the cipher mode indication data field into a second state indicative that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, if said monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal" in (Col 3 line 65 to Col 4 line 30).
18. As per claims 72-73, Houghton discloses "An apparatus according to claims 59 and 68, wherein said means for indicating a ciphering mode are provided in a data

processor external to the mobile station and communicating with the mobile station" in (Col 3 line 15 to Col 4 line 30).

19. As per claims 77, 79, 81, 87, and 93, Houghton discloses "An apparatus according to claims 76, 78, 80, 86, and 92, further comprising a cipher mode indicator, the user interface block being arranged to control the cipher mode indicator according to said indication" in (Col 4 lines 3-33).
20. As per claims 78, 90, and 91, Houghton discloses "An apparatus according to claims 74, 86, and 90, further comprising a user interface block, wherein the cipher indication memory block provides an indication of the state of said cipher mode indication data field to the user interface block when the state of said cipher mode indication data field is changed" in (Col 4 lines 3-33).
21. As per claim 84, Houghton discloses "A mobile station according to claim 82, further comprising means responsive to said determining means for indicating that an un-ciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, if said monitored signals do not comprise a cipher mode control signal" in (Col 4 lines 2-30).

22. As per claims 85 and 94, Houghton teaches "A system for indicating a ciphering mode of data communication between a mobile communication network and a mobile station in the mobile communication network, the mobile communication network and the mobile station being capable of data communication in at least one enciphered mode of communication and at least one un-ciphered mode of communication" in (Col 4 lines 10-30), the system comprising: means in the mobile communication network for determining whether an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station according to a setting of the mobile communication network (Col 3 line 65 to Col 4 line 10); means in the mobile communication network for sending a cipher mode control signal from the mobile communication network to the mobile station in a situation where an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station (Col 3 line 65 to Col 4 line 10); means in the mobile station for monitoring signals sent from the mobile communication network to the mobile station; means in the mobile station for determining if monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal; and means responsive to said determining means for indicating that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, if said monitored signals comprise a cipher- mode control signal (Col 3 line 55 to Col 4 line 30).

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23. As per claim 95, Houghton teaches "A system according to claim 94, further comprising means in the mobile station for causing the mobile station to enter an enciphered mode of communication if said monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal" in (Col 4 lines 10-30).
24. As per claim 96, Houghton teaches "A system according to claim 94, further comprising means responsive to said determining means for indicating that an unciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, if said monitored signals do not comprise a cipher mode control signal" in (Col 3 lines 57-65).
25. As per claim 97, Houghton teaches "A data processor external to a mobile station and capable of use with the mobile station for data communication between the external data processor and a mobile communication network via the mobile station, the mobile communication network and the mobile station being capable of data communication in at least one enciphered mode of communication and in at least one unciphered mode of communication, the external data processor (Remote unit figure 2 #205) comprising apparatus for receiving from the mobile station, information concerning a ciphering mode used in communication between the mobile station and the mobile communication network, and means responsive to information received from the mobile station for indicating a ciphering mode

used in communication between the mobile station and the mobile communication network" in (Col 3 line 55 to Col 4 line 30).

26. As per claim 98, Houghton discloses "A method for indicating a ciphering mode of data communication between a mobile communication network and a mobile station in the mobile communication network, the mobile communication network and the mobile station being capable of data communication in at least one enciphered mode of communication and in at least one unciphered mode of communication, and in a situation where an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, sending from the mobile communication network to the mobile station a cipher mode control signal to indicate that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used; the method comprising the steps of: monitoring at the mobile station signals sent from the mobile communication network to the mobile station; and if monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal, indicating that an enciphered mode of communication is to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station" in (Col 3 line 55 to Col 4 line 30).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

27. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 28. Claims 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Houghton in view of Spartz et al, US Patent No 5878036, hereinafter "Spartz".**
- 29.** As per claim 26, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 19, wherein a ciphering mode to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station is determined during a initiation process. However, Houghton is silent on a ciphering mode to be used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station is determined during a communication handover procedure that occurs when the mobile station moves between a first part of the mobile communication network and a second part of the mobile communication network". Nevertheless, Spartz does discloses the "Wireless telecommunications system utilizing CDMA radio frequency signal modulation in conjunction with the GSM A-interface telecommunications network protocol" invention, which teaches a method of negotiating a cipher mode during a handover process (Col 15 lines 40-67, and Col 18 line 35 to Col 19 line 18). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Spartz's invention with Houghton cipher mode indication and the user select

capability in the handover process to provide options to authenticate and maintain a secure communication connection at the user consent.

- 30.** As per claim 30, Houghton teaches a method according to claim 19, wherein the mobile communication network is a wireless network. However, Houghton is silent on the network is a GSM network. Nevertheless, Spartz does teach a ciphering mode to mobile communication over a GSM network (Col 15 lines 40-45).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Houghton's invention to implement in GSM network for better coverage and mobility.

- 31. Claims 31, 35, 66, and 70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Houghton in view of Stone et al, US Patent No. 5767778, hereinafter "Stone".**

- 32.** As per claims 31 and 66, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 19 and 59. However, Houghton does not mention that the mobile station comprises a display unit and the ciphering mode used in data communication between the mobile communication network, and the mobile station is indicated by the display unit. Nevertheless, the display unit is taught by Stone in (Col 5 lines 10-25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for

one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate this feature to display the information for alerting the user.

33. As per claims 35 and 70, Houghton teaches Houghton discloses "An apparatus characterized in that the means for indicating a change in the cipher mode by the flashing light and vibration. However, Houghton does not teach a change in the cipher mode causing to generate vibration. Nevertheless, Stone does teach "Event Sensing Circuit and Alert Generator" invention, which including a sensing circuit monitor power consumption patterns of a device (Col 5 lines 10-25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate this vibrating trigger mechanism with Houghton's invention to sensing different event from the fluctuation of the power and conveniently alert the user.

34. **Claims 44-47 and 55-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Houghton in view of fSerbetciouglu et al, US Patent No. 5719918, hereinafter "Serbetciouglu", and further in view of Stone.**

35. As per claims 44 and 46-47, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 19, wherein the mobile communication network and the mobile station are capable of a first type of communication and an indication of a cipher mode". However, Houghton is silent on "a second type of data communication, each of said first and

said second types of data communication having an enciphered mode and an enciphered mode, wherein a ciphering mode of the second types of data communication is indicated". Nevertheless, Serbetciouglu does teaches a second type of data ciphering mode communication (Col 9 lines 15-50). However, neither Houghton nor Sebetciouglu teaches a method of indicating the second type of ciphering mode. Nevertheless, tone does teach a method of alert the user at different event based on the sensitivity of power consumption and fluctuation (Col 5 lines 10-25). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Houghton's invention with Serbetciouglu's invention to implement two types of data ciphering communication in a wireless network and incorporate Stone's invention to monitor different events of power fluctuation to alert the user of an incoming communication type ciphering events.

36. As per claim 45, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 44, wherein the first type of data communication is a telephone call and said second type of data communication is a short message (SMS)" in (Serbetciouglu, Col 7 lines 10-15).
37. As per claim 55, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 19, wherein a mobile station is in data communication with a terminal in a fixed line communication network, and a ciphering mode between the fixed line communication network and the terminal in the fixed line communication network

is indicated to a user of the mobile station" in (Col 2 line 58, Col 3 lines 18-25, Col 4 lines 11-18).

38. As per claim 56, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 55, wherein the mobile station sends an inquiry message to the terminal in the fixed line communication network to determine the ciphering mode used in communication between the fixed line communication network and said terminal" in (Col 2 line 58, Col 3 lines 18-25, Col 4 lines 11-18).
39. As per claim 57, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 56, wherein if the mobile station does not receive a response to said inquiry message, the mobile station indicates that the ciphering mode used in data communication is unknown" in (Col 4 lines 18-25).
40. As per claim 58, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 55, wherein if the mobile station receives a response to said inquiry message, but cannot interpret said response the mobile station indicates that the ciphering mode used in data communication is unknown" in (Col 4 lines 18-25).
41. **Claims 36-40, 42-43, 74-76, 80, 86, 88-89, and 92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Houghton in view of Kennedy et al, European Patent No. 0680171A2, hereinafter "Kennedy".**

42. As per claims 36 and 74, Houghton discloses "An apparatus according to claims 19, 59 and 86, wherein the resource management block is the actual user intervention control (Col 4 lines 3-18)". However, Houghton does not specifically teach "the apparatus comprises of: a radio resource management block and a cipher indication memory block, wherein said means for monitoring signals sent from the mobile communication network to the mobile station and said means for determining if said monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal are arranged in the radio resource management block and a cipher mode indication data field is maintained in the cipher indication memory block, the radio resource management block being further arranged to set the cipher mode indication data field in said cipher indication memory block to correspond with cipher indication data in a cipher mode control signal received from the mobile communication network". Nevertheless, "the radio resource management block (Col 3 lines 35-44, and Col 4 lines 8-13, Security System Controller) and a cipher indication memory block (also in the Security System Controller) wherein said means for monitoring signals sent from the mobile communication network to the mobile station and said means for determining if said monitored signals comprise a cipher mode control signal are arranged in the radio resource management block and a cipher mode indication data field is maintained in the cipher indication memory block, the radio resource management block being further arranged to set the cipher mode indication data field in said cipher indication memory block to correspond with

cipher indication data in a cipher mode control signal received from the mobile communication network (Col 4 line 5 to Col 5 line 28)” is taught by Kennedy.

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the features in Kennedy to Houghton’s invention to electronically control the mode of the communication.

43. As per claims 37, 75, and 89, Houghton discloses “A method according to claims 36, 74, and 88”. However, Houghton does not teach “the said cipher indication memory block makes an interrupt request in response to a change in the cipher mode indication data field”. Nevertheless, Kennedy does teach this feature in (Col 4 lines 8-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Houghton’s invention to incorporate Kennedy’s feature to electronically controller the mode of the communication.

44. As per claims 38, 41, 76, 88, and 92, Houghton discloses “A method according to claims 37, 40, 75, 87, and 86, wherein the user interface block detects said interrupt request and sends an inquiry to the cipher indication memory block to inquire about the state of the cipher mode indication data field, and the cipher indication memory block returns an indication of the state of said cipher mode indication data field in response to said inquiry” in (Col 4 lines 1-30).

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45. As per claims 39-41, and 43, Houghton discloses "A method according to claims 36, 38, 42, 76, 78, 80, and 92, wherein the mobile station comprises a cipher mode indicator and the user interface block controls the cipher mode indicator according to said indication" in (Col 4 lines 1-30).
46. As per claims 42, 80, Houghton discloses "An apparatus according to claims 36 and 74, further comprising a user interface block, wherein the user interface block sends repeated inquiries to the cipher indication memory block about the state of the cipher mode indication data field, each inquiry being separated in time from the next by a predetermined interval and the cipher indication memory block returns an indication of the state of the cipher mode indication data field in response to each inquiry" in (Col 4 lines 3-30).
47. As per claim 86, Claim 74 is incorporated. Further, Kennedy teaches "the first state being indicative of an un-ciphered mode of communication to be used in data communication between the communication network and the mobile station" in (Col 4 lines 7-20).
48. **Claims 49-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Houghton in view of Kennedy, and further in view of Stone et al, US Patent No. 5767778, hereinafter "Stone".**

49. As per claim 49, Houghton discloses "A method according to claim 19". However, Houghton does not disclose "the mobile station is used in connection with a data processor external to the mobile station for data communication between the mobile communication network and the external data processor, the external data processor comprising a display unit, wherein a ciphering mode used in data communication between the mobile station and the mobile communication network is indicated on the display unit of the external data processor". Nevertheless, Kennedy does teach a mobile station is used in connection with a data processor external to the mobile station, and the external data processor comprising a display unit (Figure 2, and Col 1 lines 1-5). The external data processor is another mobile station in connection with the mobile station. The display unit is shown in Figure 9. However, Neither Houghton or Kennedy teaches the ciphering mode is indicated on the display. Nevertheless, Stone does teach "the indication alert on the display of the ciphering mode" in (Col 5 lines 10-25). The indication alert gets generated from the power fluctuation sensed by the sensor circuit. Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Houghton's invention to incorporate Kennedy's and Stone's teaching to create a complete solution to electronically control the cipher communication and conveniently display the status of the communication for the user.

50. As per claim 50, Claim 49 rejection is incorporated. Further, Stone teaches “the external data processor further comprises an acoustic signal forming element and a change in ciphering mode used in data communication between the mobile station and the mobile communication network is indicated with the acoustic signal forming element of the external data processor” in (Col 5 lines 10-25).
51. As per claim 51, the rejection basis of claim 49 is incorporated, wherein an indication of the state of the cipher mode indication data field is provided from the mobile station to the external data processor” in (Figure 2, and Col 1 lines 1-5).
52. As per claim 52, the rejection basis of claim 49 is incorporated, wherein the mobile station and the external data processor are connected by means of a connection bus” in (Figure 2, and Col 1 lines 1-5).
53. As per claims 53-54, the rejection basis of claim 49 is incorporated. wherein the mobile station comprises a cipher indication memory block which maintains a cipher mode indication data field indicative of a ciphering mode used in data communication between the mobile communication network and the mobile station, and the external data processor is provided with application software for monitoring the ciphering mode used in data communication between the mobile station and the mobile communication network, wherein the application software in said external data processor sends a cipher mode inquiry message to the mobile

station to determine the state of the cipher mode indication data field maintained in said cipher indication memory block of the mobile station" in (Kennedy, Col 2 lines 50-55).

Conclusion

54. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Linh Son whose telephone number is (571)-271-3856.
55. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Kim Y. Vu can be reached at (571)-272-3859. The fax numbers for this group are (703)-872-9306 (official fax). Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (571)-272-2100.
56. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PMR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pzd-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

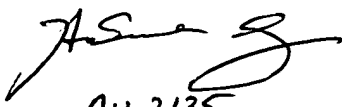
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Linh LD Son

Patent Examiner



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